

STATE OF LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HOSPITALS



PUBLIC NOTICE

RE: Applications accepted for March Transplant Oysters from Point Au Fer

The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (LDHH) is accepting applications for oyster transplant permits from the public oyster seed grounds located southwest of Point Au Fer, Atchafalaya Bay. Applications will be accepted from February 1, 2005 until February 15, 2004, at 6867 Bluebonnet Blvd., Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

The transplant permit fee is \$ 100.00 and a performance bond of \$ 5,000.00 must accompany the transplant application. Oyster fishermen who are granted permits will be allowed to transplant between March 1, 2005 and March 14, 2005 (both dates inclusive) only, and each transplant vessel must be under the direct supervision of a commissioned officer. All costs associated with the commissioned officer are the responsibility of the person securing the permit. Incomplete applications will be rejected.

The oysters that are transplanted must remain in approved waters for a minimum of fifteen days; no part of any lease on which shellfish have been transplanted may be utilized for direct market harvesting during this period.

Shellfish taken for transplanting purposes from Point Au Fer shall not be laid down within 500 feet of any adjoining lease where shellfish may be taken for sale as food during the active period of the transplant.

Permittees will be allowed to transplant oysters taken from the public oyster seed grounds southwest of Point Au Fer to only two leases in an approved bedding area, each pre-approved by the Department of Health and Hospitals. A map identifying the lease where the transplant oyster will be bedded must accompany each permit application.

Applications for transplant permits may be obtained between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, from David Guilbeau, Department of Health and Hospitals, Commercial Seafood Program, 6867 Bluebonnet Blvd., Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70810. [Phone: 225-763-5467]